UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

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CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
OF THE
NATIVE VILLAGE OF KOYUK

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APPROVED JULY 23, 1946

UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON : 1950

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE NATIVE VILLAGE OF KOYUK

We, a group of Eskimos having the common bond of living together in the Village of Koyuk, Territory of Alaska, in order to have better life and greater security, make for ourselves this Constitution and By-laws, by authority of the act of Congress of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), as amended by the acts of June 15, 1935 (49 Stat. 378), and May 1, 1936 (49 Stat. 1250).

ARTICLE 1—NAME

This organization shall be called the "Native Village of Koyuk."

ARTICLE 2—MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. *First Members.*—All persons whose names are on the list of native residents, made according to the Instructions of the Secretary of the Interior for organization in Alaska, shall be members of the Village.

SEC. 2. *Children of Members.*—All children, all adopted children, and all children making permanent homes with members, shall be members of the Village.

SEC. 3. *Loss of Membership.*—Any member may willingly give up his membership, or his membership may be taken away for good reason by the Village, or if he moves away from the Village, intending not to return, he shall lose his membership.

SEC. 4. *New Membership.*—Any person who has lost his membership and any other native person may be made a member if he sets up a home in the Village.

SEC. 5. *Membership Rules.*—The Village may make rules to govern membership, either for the purpose of carrying out this Article or covering membership matters not taken care of in this Article.

ARTICLE 3—GOVERNING BODY

SECTION 1. *Choice of Governing Body.*—At a general meeting following the acceptance of this Constitution, the Village membership shall decide what kind of governing body it wishes to set up to speak and act for the Village and to use the powers of the Village.

SEC. 2. *Choice of Officers.*—The Village shall at the same time decide how members and officers of the governing body shall be chosen and

how long they shall serve. The Village shall then choose the members to serve on the governing body and such officers as may be thought necessary.

SEC. 3. *Meetings of Membership and Governing Body.*—The Village shall decide when and how often there should be meetings of the whole Village membership as well as of the governing body; also, it shall decide what notice shall be given for the calling of meetings and how many members must be present at such meetings in order to do business; and it may make any other rules necessary for the holding of meetings. A general meeting of the whole membership shall be held at least once a year.

SEC. 4. *Record and Report of Village Decisions.*—A record shall be made and kept of all the rules made under sections 1, 2, and 3 of this Article, which record shall be called the Record of Organization of the Native Village of Koyuk. Copies of this record shall be given to the teacher or other representative of the Office of Indian Affairs serving the Village. There shall be put in the record the names of all persons chosen to be officers of the Village.

ARTICLE 4—POWERS OF THE VILLAGE

SECTION 1. *Powers Held.*—The Village shall have the following powers:

To do all things for the common good which it has done or has had the right to do in the past and which are not against Federal law and such Territorial law as may apply;

To deal with the Federal and Territorial Governments on matters which interest the Village, to stop any giving or taking away of Village lands or other property without its consent, and to get legal aid, as set forth in the act of June 18, 1934, as amended;

To control the use by members or nonmembers of any reserve set aside by the Federal Government for the Village and to keep order in the reserve;

To guard and to foster native life, arts and possessions and native customs not against the law.

SEC. 2. *Grant of More Powers.*—The Village may have and use such other powers as may be given to it by the Federal or Territorial Government.

SEC. 3. *Use of Powers.*—The governing body shall put into use such of the powers of the Village as the Village may give to it at general meetings of the membership and shall make reports of its actions to the membership at general meetings.

SEC. 4. *Rule-making Power.*—The Village may make rules which are not against law to carry out the words of this Constitution.

Article 5—Rights of Members

Section 1. *Right to Vote.*—All members of the Village 21 years of age or over shall have the right to vote in Village meetings and elections.

Sec. 2. *Right to Speak and Meet Freely.*—Members of the Village shall have the right to speak and meet together freely in a peaceable way.

Sec. 3. *Right to Share in Benefits.*—Members of the Village shall have equal chance to share in the benefits of the Village.

Article 6—Changes in the Constitution

Changes in this Constitution and By-laws may be made if the changes are approved by the Secretary of the Interior and by the majority vote of the Village members voting in an election called by the Secretary of the Interior at which at least 30 percent of the voting membership take part.

BY-LAWS OF THE NATIVE VILLAGE OF KOYUK

Article 1—Officers and Their Duties

Section 1. *Village Records.*—The Village or the governing body shall choose one or more members who shall have the duty of keeping records of all actions and decisions of the Village and of the governing body and of giving copies of the records to the representative of the Office of Indian Affairs serving the Village.

Sec. 2. *Village Funds.*—The Village or the governing body shall choose one or more members who shall have the duty of caring for the Village funds and keeping records of all funds taken in and paid out and giving copies of the records to the representative of the Office of Indian Affairs.

Sec. 3. *Officers and agents.*—The Village or the governing body may choose as many officers and agents as it may need to carry out its duties and shall state the length of service and the duties of each officer or agent when he is chosen.

Article 2—Adoption

This Constitution and By-laws shall be in effect when it is agreed to by a majority vote of the Village members voting in an election called for the purpose by the Secretary of the Interior, provided that at least 30 percent of the voting membership take part. The persons entitled to vote are all the adult native residents in the Village of Koyuk.

APPROVAL

This Constitution and By-laws is hereby approved by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior and submitted for acceptance or rejection by the group of Eskimos having a common bond of living together in the Village of Koyuk, Territory of Alaska, in an election called and held under the Instructions of the Secretary of the Interior.

All rules and regulations heretofore promulgated by the Interior Department or by the Office of Indian Affairs, so far as they may be incompatible with any of the provisions of the said Constitution and By-laws will be inapplicable to the Village of Koyuk, Territory of Alaska, from and after the date of adoption of this Constitution.

All officers and employees of the Interior Department are ordered to abide by the provisions of the said Constitution and By-laws.

[SEAL] C. GIRARD DAVIDSON,
Assistant Secretary.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *July 23, 1946.*

CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION

Pursuant to an order, approved July 23, 1946, by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, the attached Constitution and By-laws was submitted for ratification to the group of Eskimos having a common bond of residence in the Village of Koyuk, Territory of Alaska, and was on August 16, 1946, duly ratified by a vote of 28 for, and 0 against, in an election in which over thirty percent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots, in accordance with section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), as amended by the Acts of June 15, 1935 (49 Stat. 378) and May 1, 1936 (49 Stat. 1250).

ELSIE DOUGLAS,
Chairman, Election Board.

VIAH DODGE,
Government Representative.

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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

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CORPORATE CHARTER
OF THE
NATIVE VILLAGE OF KOYUK
ALASKA

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APPROVED JULY 23, 1946

UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON : 1950

CORPORATE CHARTER OF THE NATIVE VILLAGE OF KOYUK, ALASKA

A FEDERAL CORPORATION CHARTERED UNDER THE ACT OF JUNE 18, 1934, AS AMENDED BY THE ACT OF MAY 1, 1936

Whereas, a group of Eskimos having a common bond of living together in Koyuk, Territory of Alaska, seek to organize under Sections 16 and 17 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), and Section 1 of the Act of May 1, 1936 (49 Stat. 1250), by adoption of a Constitution and By-laws and a Charter approved by the Secretary of the Interior,

Whereas, more than one-third of the adult members of the Native Village of Koyuk have petitioned that a Charter of incorporation be granted to such group of Eskimos, subject to ratification by a vote of the adult Eskimos living in the Native Village of Koyuk,

Now, therefore, I, C. Girard Davidson, Assistant Secretary of the Interior, by virtue of the authority given to me by the above acts, do hereby submit this Charter of incorporation to the group of Eskimos so organizing.

SECTION 1. *Purpose and Name.*—In order to enable the Village and its members to do various kinds of business for their good, the Village is hereby chartered as a corporation of the United States of America under the name of "Native Village of Koyuk".

SEC. 2. *Membership.*—The corporation shall be a membership corporation, consisting of all persons of the Village considered members under the rules of its Constitution.

SEC. 3. *Management.*—The corporation shall be managed by the governing body set up under the Constitution.

SEC. 4. *Powers.*—The corporation shall have the power to do the following things:

To own, hold, manage and dispose of all Village property;

To make contracts;

To sue and be sued;

To borrow money from the revolving Indian credit fund and to use it under the loan contract;

To enter into any business or activity that will better the condition of the Village and its members;

To do such other things as may be necessary to carry on the business and activities of the Village.

SEC. 5. *Limits to Powers.*—In using its powers the corporation must not do the following things:

Go against any law or the Constitution and By-laws of the Village;

Sell or mortgage any land set aside as a reserve for the Village;

Make leases, permits or contracts covering any lands or waters set aside as a reserve for the Village without the approval of the Secretary of the Interior or his authorized representative.

SEC. 6. *Property of Members.*—Property owned by a member of the Village shall not be taken to pay the debts of the corporation without his consent.

SEC. 7. *Records.*—The corporation shall keep correct records of its business and activities and give copies of these records when asked to do so to the representative of the Office of Indian Affairs serving the Village.

SEC. 8. *Changes in the Charter.*—Changes in the Charter may be made by the Village and if approved by the Secretary of the Interior shall be in force when agreed to by a majority vote of those members voting in an election called by the Secretary of the Interior: *Provided*, That at least 30 percent of the voting membership votes. The Charter itself shall continue in force for all time, unless taken away by act of Congress.

SEC. 9 *Adoption of Charter.*—This Charter shall be in force when it is agreed to by a majority vote of those members voting in an election called by the Secretary of the Interior, provided, that at least 30 percent of the voting membership votes and provided that the Village has agreed to a Constitution and By-laws approved by the Secretary of the Interior.

This Charter is hereby approved and submitted to the group of Eskimos having a common bond of residence in the Village of Koyuk, Territory of Alaska, to be voted on in an election called and held under the Instructions of the Secretary of the Interior.

[SEAL] C. GIRARD DAVIDSON.
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *July 23, 1946.*

CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to an order, approved July 23, 1946, by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, the attached Charter was submitted for ratification to the group of Eskimos having a common bond of residence in the Village of Koyuk, Territory of Alaska, and was on August 16, 1946, duly ratified by a vote of 28 for, and 0 against, in an election in which over 30 percent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots, in accordance with the Alaska Act of May 1, 1936 (49 Stat. 1250), and section 17 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), as amended by the Act of June 15, 1935 (49 Stat. 378).

ELSIE DOUGLAS,
Chairman, Election Board.

VIAH DODGE,
Government Representative.

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